



LAKE TYPE DRILLING TENDER being built for the National Supply Company is shown in this drawing alongside a fixed drilling platform. Crew quarters and a heliport are on the second deck, below which the principal machinery is located. Forward on the main deck is the pipe storage area, with a

15-ton crane, and a ramp leading to the drilling platform. Electric power, generated on the tender, is delivered to the platform by cable, using an electric motor drive to operate the draw works and rotary. The rig is intended for drilling to 13,000 feet or deeper.

National Supply Builds Three Floating Rigs to Drill Oil from Venezuela Lake

A lake type drilling tender, intended for the distinctive kind of oil operations on Venezuela's big Lake Maracaibo, has been developed by The National Supply Company.

The tender has an all steel hull, and is equipped with powerful machinery for drilling oil wells to 13,000 feet or deeper. It includes such features as air conditioned crew quarters and a heliport.

The hull of the first tender has been completed by the Livingston Shipbuilding Company, Orange, Texas, and is being fitted up for service. Two more are under construction. The tenders are not self propelled and will have to be towed through the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea to Lake Maracaibo.

National Supply manufactured most of the drilling machinery in its own plants, and in addition purchased equipment and supplies from a large number of other manufacturers throughout the country. Although the company has had extensive experience in the engineering of drilling machinery operations and has sold a number of rigs for such work, this is the first time it has produced a complete drilling tender as a "package deal."

Lake Maracaibo, in western Venezuela, is a source of much of the oil that has made that nation the world's second largest producer. It extends 100 miles north and south and is 80 miles across at its widest point. Wells have been drilled in waters more than 100 feet deep. Drilling is conducted from platforms, either 24 feet or 30 feet square, which are erected on permanent foundations in the lake. Anchored alongside the platform is the drilling tender, which carries all the slush pump machinery, "drilling mud" drill pipe, casing, and other equipment and supplies.

FOR DEEP DRILLING

Although most drilling has been in the 6000-foot to 8000-foot depth range, deeper drilling programs are contemplated. National Supply equipment meets the requirements of both present and future depths, with no need to go to the expense of erecting larger drilling platforms.

To accomplish this, National

engineers designed a combination mechanical-electrical rig, with the main drive compound located on the tender rather than on the platform. This compound serves as a direct mechanical drive to the big slush pumps on the tender and also generates electric power for the equipment on the platform.

The draw works, for raising and lowering pipe, and its electric motor drive, are mounted on skids, permitting them to be transferred readily from the tender to the platform for drilling operations. Use of the electric motor drive eliminates the need to have the larger main drive compound also on the platform. Other equipment carried on the tender, but used on the platform, includes the rotary, for rotating pipe in the hole, a crown block, hook block, and equipment from the high waves that sometimes rise on Lake Maracaibo. Pipe storage racks are provided with removable stanchions that increase their capacity.

Before beginning the design of new tender, National Supply engineers made a extensive studies of operations on Lake Maracaibo, and interviewed oil operators as to improved features desired.

WELDED STEEL

The tender is of welded steel construction, 180 feet long by 70 feet wide and 11 feet 3 inches deep. This is the same size as some other tenders now in use on Lake Maracaibo, but the engineers provided additional space by locating the crew quarters on a second deck. These quarters, with space for six men include a bunk room, galley, mess area, and office, all air-conditioned.

Also on this second deck is the helicopter landing area, 45 by 73 feet, equipped with landing lights and a target.

The principal machinery is located on the main deck, in the area beneath the heliport. Power equipment includes three Superior Diesel Engines driving two Westinghouse generators and the National Mechanical electric drive compound and a Westinghouse motor.

The generator shaft serves as a power transmission member of fluid couplings on the pump drive. Because of this arrangement, the two National Slush Pumps can be operated even in case of an electrical failure; similarly, any difficulties with the pump drive would not affect transmission of electric power

to the draw works electric drive on the platform.

A smaller National Slush Pump, used for mud mixing, is powered by a Caterpillar Turbo-charged engine.

15-TON CRANE

Forward of the machinery area, the main deck is open and is used for pipe storage and other purposes. Equipment here includes a 15-ton crane with a 75-foot boom, for lifting heavy loads on the tender or to the drilling platform.

Storage space on the tender for drilling mud is more than double that usually provided. The active mud tanks, normally located in the hull, are placed four feet above the deck to improve pump operations.

A five-foot sea wall surrounds the entire machinery deck, to protect personnel and the equipment from the high waves that sometimes rise on Lake Maracaibo. Pipe storage racks are provided with removable stanchions that increase their capacity.

Because of the corrosive nature of the lake water, anti-corrosion paint is used on the exterior of the hull, and magnesium bar cathodic protection is provided for the portion below the water line.

In operation, one of the tenders will be anchored alongside a

derrick has been erected, and secured to the platform. Equipment and supplies necessary on the platform will then be transferred to it and the power lines hooked up. When a well is completed, the drilling machinery used on the platform is put back on the tender, which is then ready for drilling at another location.

Nahas Store Gains in Size

Gardena boasts its largest department store with addition to Nahas building, according to Tex Warden, manager. The store, situated on Redondo Beach boulevard between Normandie and Vermont avenues, is now twice-as-big as it was originally and carries a full line of clothes, hardware, cosmetics, jewelry, and notions, he further stated.

Ample parking space is available to shoppers. "Watch for the grand reopening of the twice-as-big Nahas Department store," said Warden.

Name Becker Manager of City Gas Co.

James P. Becker, newly appointed local manager of the Torrance office of the Southern California Gas company was guest of honor at a special luncheon recently here at the Palms restaurant.

Honoring Becker's appointment to the Torrance post for the utility, City Mayor Al Ison and gas company Southwest Division Manager Carl W. Shupp joined other business and civic leaders in introducing and welcoming the new manager, who will now take over the responsibilities of managing the recently remodeled and enlarged Torrance office, located here at 1340 Post ave.

A veteran of 11 years with the utility, Becker first joined the gas company in 1946, and since 1952 has served as supervisor, customers department, in both the Los Angeles headquarters and the Florence Branch office.

Becker is a native of Kansas City, Mo., where he attended schools including Kansas City Commercial college. During the war he served as a chief petty officer in the U. S. Navy.

Planning a move to the Torrance area in the near future, Becker and his family are currently residing in South Gate.



TORRANCE MAYOR Albert Ison extends welcome and congratulations to James P. Becker (right), newly appointed local manager of the Torrance office of the Southern California Gas Co. Carl Shupp (left), Southwest Division Manager for the utility, joined the ceremony during special luncheon for Becker here at the Palms restaurant.

BETTER THAN EVER! FOR BEST VALUES OF ALL CHECK THE TORRANCE PRESS CLASSIFIED FA. 8-2345

NOTICE

TO PLACE A WANT AD DIAL FA. 8-2345

SAY: "I want to place a want ad."

All ads taken before our Tuesday deadline of 5 p.m. will appear in Thursday's paper.

Cancellations . . . Ad must appear in paper one time before it can be cancelled.

Errors . . . The Torrance Press will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion of any advertisement and reserves the right to rectify all errors by a corrected insertion of the advertisement the following Thursday.

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Ornamental stone veneer. Distinctive cement brick and flagstone patios, driveways, brick planters, block fences, room additions.

FINEST WORK FR. 6-3369

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1. PHONE FA. 8-2345 and say "I want to place a Classified Ad."
 2. MAIL it to Torrance Press Classified Ads, 1406 Cravens, Torrance, California.
 3. BRING it to The Torrance Press office, 1406 Cravens Ave., (Corner of Cravens & Post, Torrance.
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| <p>NEW CAR TRADE-INS</p> | <p>'57 Thunderbird</p> <p>Ford-o-matic, power steering, power brakes, radio, heater, white sidewalls, tinted glass, hardtop.</p> <p>MZT-536... \$3397</p> | <p>ONE YEAR WARRANTY</p> | <p>'53 DODGE</p> <p>Radio, heater, fluid drive.</p> <p>KEX-999... \$645</p> |
| <p>'56 Plym. Wagon</p> <p>Radio, heater, Powerflite, V.8. power steering and brakes.</p> <p>GDM-164... \$1785</p> | <p>BANK FINANCING</p> | <p>'55 Chev. Belair</p> <p>Hardtop, Powerglide, radio, heater, white sidewall tires, two-tone blue.</p> <p>HFF-847... \$1597</p> | <p>FACTORY TRAINED MECHANICS</p> |
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